

Face to face

Dear Friends,

John Magee was a pilot, serving in the Royal Canadian Air Force during the Second World War. Sadly he died in 1941, but not before he had written a powerful poem that needs to be heard today. After months of being locked down, we are all starting to appreciate that new horizons beckon, and new possibilities are opening up. We will each be deciding how and when we can make the most of the regulations easing. Here is the poem that captures the mood and memories of freedom and space:



*Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds, – and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of – wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence.
Hov'ring there, I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air...*

*Up, up the long, delirious burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace
Where never lark, or ever eagle flew –
And, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,
Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.*

As well as being moved by this poem, I want to name that I see the face of God in other ways as well – in the recognition of companions who have for the last 12 months been only visible on screen; in the surprise and delight of being face to face with a long-missed friend. At times, God comes to us, it is true, on the mountain top – or even beyond that, as described by Magee. God also comes to us in local, immediate, earthly ways: in casual conversation, face to face. Now, as I connect with someone in that way, my heart is stirred, and I feel the sanctity of human living.

– Robert

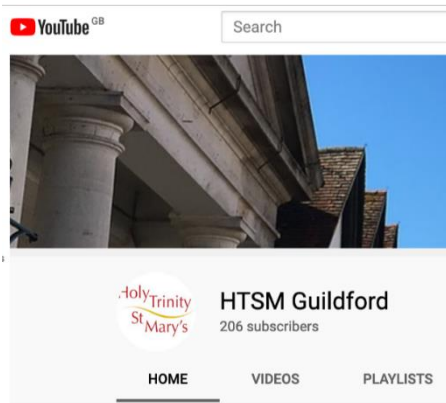
Worship update



Coming back together

As we work out how we move forward together as the various Covid restrictions are eased, we realise that there is space for a quiet midweek service where there are fewer people, and which doesn't mean you miss out on singing at home on Sundays.

From 27 April we'll be holding a weekly reflective service of Holy Communion at 12pm on Tuesdays in the beautiful, newly refurbished St. Mary's. All the precautions regarding distancing and masks will still be in place and the service will last around half an hour.



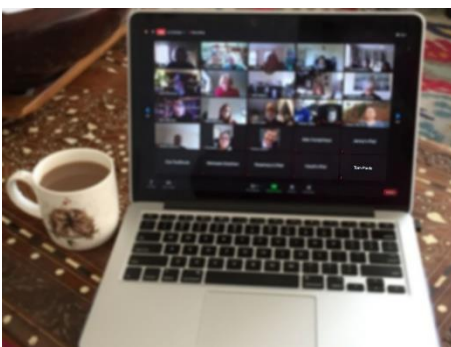
From Zoom to YouTube

We have made some changes to our worship at Holy Trinity. Firstly, we're delighted that the St. Luke's Chapel (with its own loudspeaker and adjustable controls) is open once again for the youngest members of our congregation and their families.

Secondly, on Easter Sunday we transitioned from Zoom to YouTube for the Sunday morning service at Holy Trinity. We made this choice because there are some technical issues which mean using Zoom was no longer possible for the time being. The tech team continues to

work very hard to ensure that you can participate in our worship from wherever you are in the world, but sometimes things happen which are outside of our control and we're sorry that there was glitch in the broadcast at the beginning of the service last Sunday.

Coffee rooms on Zoom are still open after the service. If you need help getting onto YouTube, please let us know and we'd be glad to talk you through it.



Day by day

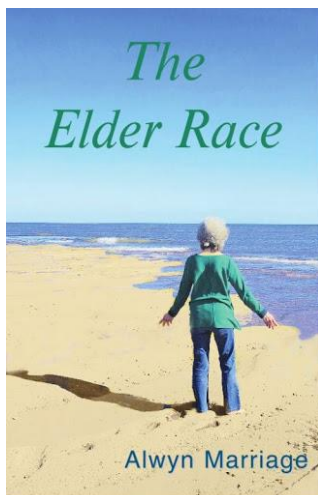
Each morning at 8:30am, a large handful of us meet to say Morning Prayer. [It's easy to join in](#); you don't have to say anything. As well as giving a peaceful start to the day, we have the chance to pray for people and places who are dear to us. As the month rolls on, we pray for all the churches in Guildford, and for people who bear significant responsibility in our town (such as the Police, schools and Borough officials). We pray for those in special need, either by name or

privately; we pray through the Parish List – so each one of you is prayed for in a regular way. That, for me, is a tender moment of connection, as I give thanks for the many wonderful people who contribute to this Christian community. Let me know if you want someone or something prayed for by name (or in silence).

- Robert

Trinity Club@Home

All welcome to join us for a friendly discussion on various topics on Tuesday mornings via Zoom.



Tuesday 27th April • 10:30am – 12:00pm

Dr. Alwyn Marriage will be in conversation with 'Trish McIntosh, when Alwyn discusses her latest book 'The Elder Race' (Bellhouse Press, 2020). Alwyn is the author or editor of eleven books. Her poetry, articles and reviews are published widely in newspapers, magazines, journals and on-line; and her first novel, 'Rapeseed', was published early in 2017 and her second novel, 'The Elder Race', in 2020. This will be the subject of the conversation. The Elder Race is "Set in a future in which medical science has eliminated almost all life-threatening illnesses, one woman races to escape a Government that is responding to the resulting population explosion with deadly methods. Will she find safety and a new way of living? Will she find love? Join us for what promises to be a fascinating discussion, [using this link](#).



Peter and the Wolf come to Kwasa

On April 9th Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf came to visit Kwasa, courtesy of the Johannesburg Philharmonic Orchestra! [Find out more](#) about the performance on the new stage in the white building. Amazing!



A hideaway you should know about

Matrix Trust, a local youth work charity, has created something special in a little known corner of Guildford. Tucked away in the Allen House grounds (just off Eastgate Gardens), The Hideaway will be much more than a destination café, becoming a unique community hub connecting the skills and experience of local residents with needs of local young people. During the day the café team will be enriched with young people working alongside our baristas and kitchen team as apprentices, gaining valuable on-the-job experience as part of the accredited national programme, alongside mentoring, a life skills programme and support to find future employment.

Once the school day ends, The Hideaway will closed to the public to be [transformed into a social space for young people](#) from across Guildford Borough; a safe space to make friends, build relational connections with youth workers and cultivate vital social and emotional skills. A much needed space currently lacking in Guildford town centre. We are open for takeaway coffee and cakes from Monday 12th April at 10am, or you can stay a while on the terrace (although you may need to wrap up warm!) Later in the Spring when we are allowed to open fully we will send a invitation to a special event, so do watch out for that. In the meantime we hope to see you at The Hideaway soon.



A new Rector for St Nicolas' Guildford

Fr Neil Roberts has been appointed as the next Rector of St. Nicolas' Guildford. His Induction and Collation will be held on Tuesday September 7.

Fr Neil went to Kings College London as a Choral Scholar and took degrees in theology. Following postgraduate study at Cambridge, where he was also a Lay Clerk at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Fr Neil taught for sixteen years, first in Leicestershire, teaching RE and Music, and then here in Surrey where for ten years he was Head of Religion and Philosophy at Reigate Grammar School. It was here that he met his wife, Helen, a Surrey girl, and they started their family.

After discerning a call to the priesthood, Fr Neil trained at St Augustine's College and took his ministry degree from Kent and a research degree from Canterbury on the Spirituality of Music. He has served in parishes in Southwark and Chichester dioceses and is currently a School Chaplain in Derbyshire. It is from there that together with Helen, Louis, Benedict and Ted, their boys, come to Guildford. As well as being Chaplain he has been Head of Department, a member of the diocesan Board of Education, a Curate tutor on Leadership and Canon Law and he has also served as Assistant Cathedral Chaplain. He is a Priest Associate of the Holy House of Walsingham and an Oblate of the Order of St Benedict - his mother house being Alton Abbey.

Sunday Services • 25 April 2021 • Easter 4

8am St Mary's BCP Holy Communion • Led by Jonathan Hedgecock
[At St Mary's & on Zoom](#)

10am Holy Trinity Eucharist • Sermon by Jonathan Hedgecock
Readings: 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18
[YouTube live only • Breakout rooms on Zoom after the service](#)

10:30am St Mary's Morning Worship • Sermon by Julia Monaghan
Readings: John 10: 11- 18; 1 John 3: 16 -24
[At St Mary's & on Zoom](#)

6pm Holy Trinity Evening Prayer • Sermon by Tom Pote
Readings: Isaiah 52:7-10; 2 Timothy 4:1-11
[At Holy Trinity & on Zoom](#)

To receive Zoom links and service sheets by email
contact office@holytrinityguildford.org.uk | 01483 567716

You can also watch our services (LS) Livestream on the HTSM YouTube channel
<https://www.youtube.com/c/HTSMGuildford>

If there is news that we should know, please pass it on:
Rev Robert Cotton rector@holytrinityguildford.org.uk | 01483 575489
Rev Tom Pote curate@holytrinityguildford.org.uk | 01483 511725
Parish Office office@holytrinityguildford.org.uk | 01483 567716
Please make sure we have up to date contact details for you.